

**REMARKS**

In the Office Action<sup>1</sup>, the Examiner rejected claims 1-6, 8-13, 15, and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Baker et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,920,303); and objected to claims 6, 7, 13, and 14 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. but allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By this Amendment, Applicant amends claims 1-5, 7-12, and 14-16 and cancels claims 6 and 13, without prejudice or disclaimer. Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1-5, 7-12, and 14-16 will remain pending. Of these claims, claims 1, 8, 15, and 16 are independent.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-6, 8-13, 15, and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Baker et al.* (*Office Action*, p. 2, paragraph 2). The Examiner, however, also objected to claims 6 and 13 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but allowable if rewritten in independent form. (*Id.* at p. 6, paragraph 3). Accordingly, Applicant believes there is a typographical error in the listing of rejected claims on page 2 of the Office Action. Applicant requests that the Examiner clarify this discrepancy in the next communication.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 6, 7, 13, and 14.

Applicant traverses the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and respectfully requests reconsideration of this application.

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<sup>1</sup> The Office Action contains characterizations of the claims and the related art with which Applicant does not necessarily agree. Unless expressly noted otherwise, Applicant declines to subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.

Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 8, 15, and 16 patentably distinguish over *Baker et al.*, and the other art of record. Applicant has amended independent claim 1 to include the feature of allowable claim 6, and independent claims 8, 15, and 16 to include the feature of allowable claim 13, the features which the Examiner admits are not disclosed in *Baker et al.* Accordingly, *Baker et al.* fails to disclose each and every element of independent claims 1, 8, 15, and 16 and fails to anticipate independent claims 1, 8, 15, and 16, and claims 2-5, 7, 9-12, and 14 that depend therefrom.

Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-5, 7-12, and 14-16 are in condition for allowance.

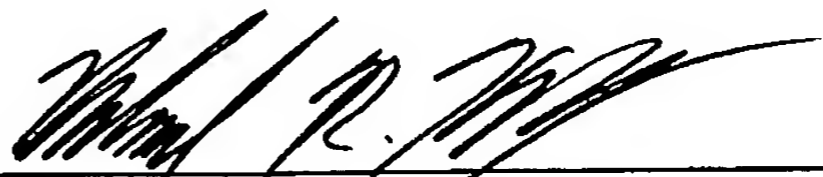
Applicant therefore requests reconsideration of the application, and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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